

Mammoth Bar OHV Area



Auburn State Recreation Area
California State Parks
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Description of the Area

Mammoth Bar OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) Area is located in the Sierra Nevada foothills about thirty-five miles northeast of Sacramento. The area has been used by OHV enthusiasts for 30 years and offers a wide range of trails and conditions in a beautiful setting adjacent to the Middle Fork of the American River. The area is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation and is operated by the California State Parks.

Days and Hours

Open Days & OHV Riding Days: The Mammoth Bar area is open every day for recreational use, except during wet weather when the park area may be temporarily closed. The park is opened for OHV riding on the following schedule: October 1st to March 31st on Sundays, Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays; April 1st to September 30th on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays.

Park Hours: The area opens a 8:00 a.m. year around. From October 1st to March 31st the area closes at 5:00 p.m. From April 1st to September 30th the park closes one half hour after sunset. Track and trails close ½ hour before the park closes.

Other Closures: During periods of rain, Mammoth Bar will be closed and the entrance gate locked. Rain closures will include a dry out period of a minimum of 24 hours after a rain ceases.

From time to time, portions of Mammoth Bar will be closed for maintenance, revegetation and erosion control work. Be safe, use caution, and watch for signs indicating that personnel may be present or that heavy equipment is being operated.

National and Cultural History

Most of the Mammoth Bar area is foothill pine and oak woodland and chaparral. A diverse community of riparian plants and animals can also be found on the southern border of the area along the Middle Fork of the American River.

For thousands of years, the Native Americans fished in the river and streams, hunted wild game and foraged for food in the hills surrounding Mammoth Bar. Known today as the Maidu (a sub-group of the Nisenan), these people used native plants for food, medicine, weapons, tools and shelter.

In 1848, when gold was discovered on the South Fork of the American River - approximately 15 miles from Mammoth Bar, prospectors from across the nation and around the world flowed to the area. Cabins, tents, and entire towns sprang up along the river bars while the prospectors toiled for gold in the river gravel. Every accessible river bar was panned, sluiced or dredged for gold more than once throughout the years. In 1879, the Mammoth Bar Mining Company began mining operations at Mammoth Bar under the leadership of Colonel Walter Scott Davis and his son. In 1882, a hydraulic elevator system was installed and the company was processing gravel from as far away as Brown’s Bar (one mile upstream). Today, evidence of that old mining operation and others can still be seen.

A wagon road was carved down the side of the mountain to the river where the first bridge to cross the Middle Fork of the American River was built. Rock walls and other remains of this old road can still be seen to this day. Immediately downstream from the old bridge site, between Mammoth Bar and Murderer’s Bar, rapids mark the location of several natural waterfalls that were blasted apart by miners during the gold rush.

General Information

Some OHV trails are open to two way traffic and others are single direction only. Only motorcycles and ATV’s (three-wheel & Quads less then 40 inches wide) are allowed. These vehicles are restricted to designated signed trails, to the tracks and to the Trials riding area. All other areas are closed to vehicle use.

A Special Use Permit must be obtained 60 days prior to any organized activity or event at Mammoth Bar. For more information on special events permits call the OHV office at (530) 885-5821 or the Auburn SRA office at 530-885-4527.

Current Activities

Currently grant funds are provided by the OHV Recreation Division of the California State Parks to the Bureau of Reclamation for operation and rehabilitation of the area. These “Green Sticker” and gas tax generated funds are being used to improving recreational facilities, rehabilitate areas and to fund ongoing resource monitoring programs.

Developed facilities within Mammoth Bar OHV Area include picnic tables, BBQ’s, chemical toilets, information panels, riding trails of varying difficulty and two tracks: a “Mini” track for 90 cc’s or less (for children) and a “Motocross” track for bikes with 90 cc’s or more.

To obtain a copy of any other California OHV publications, write the State OHV Office at: California OHV Commission, P.O. Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001; or phone (916) 653-9072.

Trials Riding Area

Trials style riding is allowed only on trails and in designated Trials riding areas adjacent to the parking area. It is important that no new trails are made so as to help prevent resource damage. Do not ride in stream beds. If streams must be crossed while on trails, do so only at a 90 degree angle.

Track Safety

- For safety purposes and during heavy use of the motocross track, the track may be closed to slower or inexperienced riders and/or ATV’s.
- Taking hands and/or feet off an OHV while in the air is prohibited as unsafe and reckless operation.
- No cutting across the tracks.
- The track maybe closed at various times for the purpose of watering for dust control and/or when accidents occur.
- Violations of these restrictions can result in a

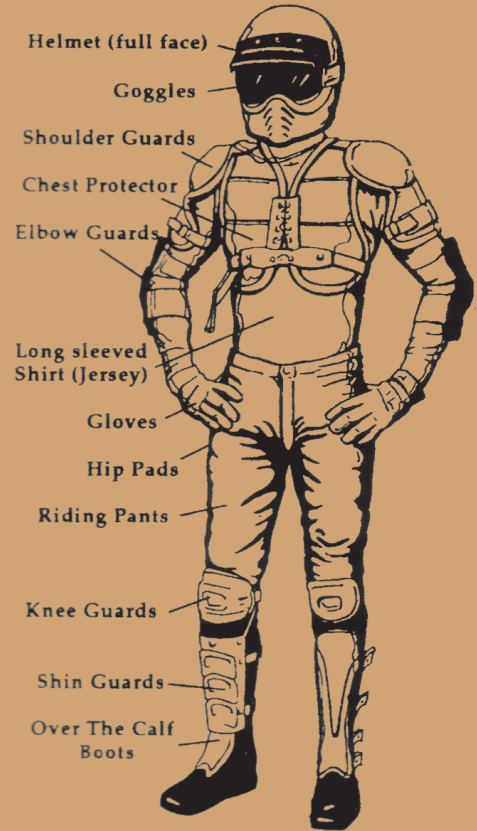
Trails Difficulty Ratings

The area’s topography ranges from relatively flat gravel bars to steep (60 degrees-slope) canyon sides. Trails have been designed to offer three basic levels of riding difficulty, **Easy**, **More Difficult** and **Most Difficult**. The trail ratings use the following symbols:
□ Easiest □ More Difficult □ Most Difficult.

Clothing and Equipment

Be sure to wear proper safety equipment for the type of vehicle you are operating. At a minimum, you should wear, goggles, protective clothing (long sleeve shirt and pants) and boots. ATV riders are required to wear a helmet and all riders should wear a safety helmet. Riders also benefit from wearing chest protectors, shoulder guards, knee, hip and elbow pads, shin guards and gloves (see diagram).

Protective equipment should include:



Hazards

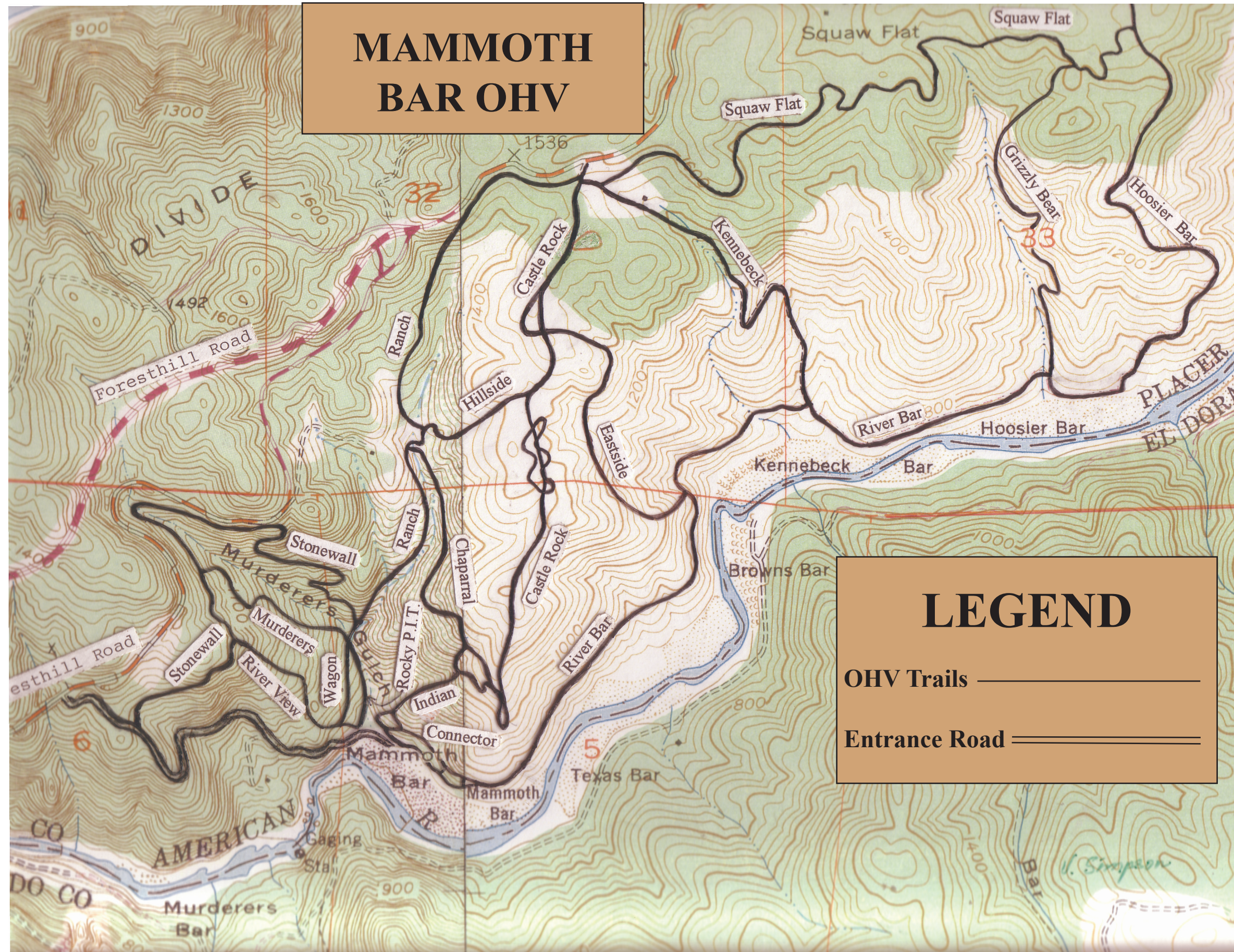
Riders should watch for old fences, barbed wire, ditches, ruts, narrow trails, steep drop-offs, summer heat, poison oak and rattlesnakes. Additionally we are in a Lyme disease area. Lyme disease is transmitted by Tick bites. Have all tick bites checked by your doctor. Finally, beware of Giardia, which is an intestinal disease caused by drinking infected water. Normally only tap or bottled water should be used for drinking.

Rules and Regulations

This is just a partial list of laws and regulations that apply at Mammoth Bar OHV Area. It is the rider’s responsibility to know and comply with all applicable rules and regulations. OHV use is regulated by both Federal and State laws.

- OHV use at Mammoth Bar is limited to motorcycles and ATV’s (i.e. 3-wheelers & Quads)
- The following vehicles are not allowed for use at the Mammoth Bar OHV Area: Odyssey, Pilot, Mighty Mite or other types of 4WD vehicles over 40 inches in width.
- OHV’s must have visible OHV Registration.
- All OHV’s are to have a U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrester in working condition.
- All OHV’s must meet noise standards (101 decibels maximum). Remember, “Less Sound Means More Ground.”
- Trail riding is allowed only on trails and in designated areas.
- Operators of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV’s, i.e. 3-wheelers and quadrunners) are required to wear an approved safety helmet regardless of age.
- State Law requires persons under 18 years of age to carry a SAFETY CERTIFICATE issued by the State of California or ATV Safety Institute when riding an ATV on Public Lands.
- Riders who are 14 years or younger must be supervised by a Parent or Legal Guardian at all times.
- According to the California Vehicle Code, operators of ATV’s “shall not carry passengers when on public lands”.
- Passengers are only allowed on portion of motorcycles specifically designed for passengers. Specifically, no passengers are allowed on tanks or handlebars.
- Children may only operate an OHV vehicle if they can reach and operate all the controls.
- Speed laws and rules of the road apply on both paved and unpaved roads. The maximum speed limit on the roads and parking areas in the 15 mph and slower when congested.
- In the track areas, do not ride on or across the berms surrounding the tracks. Use designated entrances and exits for accessing the tracks.
- Driving or cutting across switchbacks, through mountain meadows, streams, or elsewhere off of designated trails is not allowed. Stay on trails designated for such use.
- Don’t spin wheels unnecessarily.
- No ground fires are allowed. All fires must be located in the BBQ facilities provided.
- Dogs are required to be on a maximum 6 foot leash at all times.
- Please be sure to pack out all trash or to place it in the trash receptacles provided. Let’s work together to keep this area clean.

MAMMOTH BAR OHV



LEGEND

OHV Trails _____

Entrance Road _____



Emergency Information

Emergency	Dial 911
Placer County Sheriff	530-889-7800
Auburn State Rec. Area	530 885-4527

The State Park Rangers who patrol Mammoth Bar OHV Area are peace officers trained as first responders for those needing medical assistance. If a ranger or other park staff are not available, dial 911 on any telephone. This will connect you with the county dispatcher who can summon appropriate aid. The nearest telephones are in Auburn, and at the Auburn State Recreation Area Headquarters office on Highway 49 (when open).

Directions to **Auburn Faith Hospital**, the closest hospital to Mammoth Bar OHV area, are as follows: From Mammoth Bar OHV Area, make a right turn on Old Auburn - Foresthill Road. Travel 1.4 miles and make a left turn on the new Foresthill Road. Travel 3 miles to Interstate 80. Take I-80 east bound approximately 1.5 miles to Bell Road. Turn left on Bell Road (North Bound) and travel approximately 2.5 miles to Highway 49. Turn right onto Highway 49 and travel approximately 1/4 mile to Education Street. Turn left onto Education Street and enter Auburn Faith Hospital Parking area on the right.

Trail Courtesy

Courtesy and consideration make riding more fun for all. Respect the land and rights of others. Let your passing be as unnoticeable as possible. Be sure your machine is as quiet as you can make it. Assist others who need help. When you ride, follow all regulations and remember "Tread Lightly".